would be introduced except to subsidise transport cost of industrial commodities in the case of remote, inaccessible and isolated areas like North Eastern Region and hill and difficult areas.

U.K. Indians Angry at Mission's Stand

608 SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU. Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news-item that appeared in 'Hindustan Times' dated 14th September, 1987 under the caption 'U.K. Indians angry at mission's stand' according to which Deputy High Commissioner is alleged to have patronised people with anti-Indian leanings;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any enquiry has been conducted in the matter: and

(d) if so, the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The newspaper item seeks to criticise the presence of the Indian Deputy High Commissioner at some functions organised by overseas Indians. Government have obtained the views of the Indian High Commissioner in London. There are several Organisations and Groups of Indians in U.K. The Indian High Commission maintains contacts with all such Organisations and Groups, which are not anti-national The officials of the Indian High Commission have, in the past, participated in various function organised by the Indian Overseas Congress in several cities of U.K They have however, not attended any function organised by anti-Indian activists in U.K.

There are serious inaccuracies and imputations in the newspaper item. which are being brought to the notice of the Editor.

Expansion of Defence Assistance from US

609. SHRIMATI KRISHNA KAUL: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken steps to expand the sphere of defence assistance from USA consequent on Prime Minister's visit to that country; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI K. C. PANT): (a) and (b) During the visit of the Prime Minister o USA, it was agreed to expand deence cooperation along the lines which have already been established in working together with the United States of America on certain defence related technologies like the Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) project. The two sides also agreed to explore and identify other areas of defence co-operation.

U.S. Aid to Pakistan

610. SHRIMATI KRISHNA KAUL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has urged United States not to resume and till Pakistan gave clarification on its nuclear programme; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government of U S. thereon?